



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/736,640  
Filed : December 17, 2003  
Applicant : Don J. DIAMOND  
TC/A.U. : 1648  
Examiner : Salimi, Ali Reza

Docket No. : 1954-437  
Customer No. : 06449  
Confirmation No. : 4749

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Director of the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated January 11, 2006, Applicants elect Group IV for prosecution on the merits (claims 9 and 10), and SEQ ID NO:2, with traverse.

At this time, Applicants request that at least claims 7 and 8 be rejoined and examined at this time with claims 9-10. Claims 7 and 8 are drawn to a method of diagnosing exposure to HCMV in a patient as are claims 9 and 10. The Office Action states that claims 7-8 are directed to a method of identifying T cells, which is inaccurate. Applicants believe that this grouping was made in error and request it be corrected so that claims 7-10 are placed in the same group and examined together.